

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1-15 and 19-22 will be pending in the application subsequent to entry of this Amendment.

The allowance of claims 1-12 is noted with appreciation. Applicants request reconsideration of the objection to claims 15, 19 and 21 and have rewritten claims 13, 14, 20 and 22 in fully independent form (claims 16-18 have been canceled in order to reduce issues) responsive to the claim rejections stated on pages 2 and 3 of the Official Action.

Counsel submits that claims 15, 19 and 21 are drawn to specific embodiments of the composition of claim 1, namely the fibers in claim 15, a composition made of fibers in claim 19 and a paper product containing fibers according to claim 21. It is submitted that these specific embodiments of the general composition of claim 1 are appropriately claimed in this application. Reconsideration is requested.

The "use of" claims 13, 14, 20 and 22 have been converted to process claims and the features of allowed claim 1 are incorporated into each of these claims. These changes are believed to respond fully to the examiner's comments and place the involved claims in proper formal order.

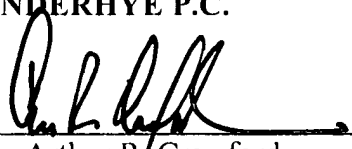
Should the examiner have any questions or concerns with this Amendment, please contact the undersigned.

Reconsideration and allowance are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____


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